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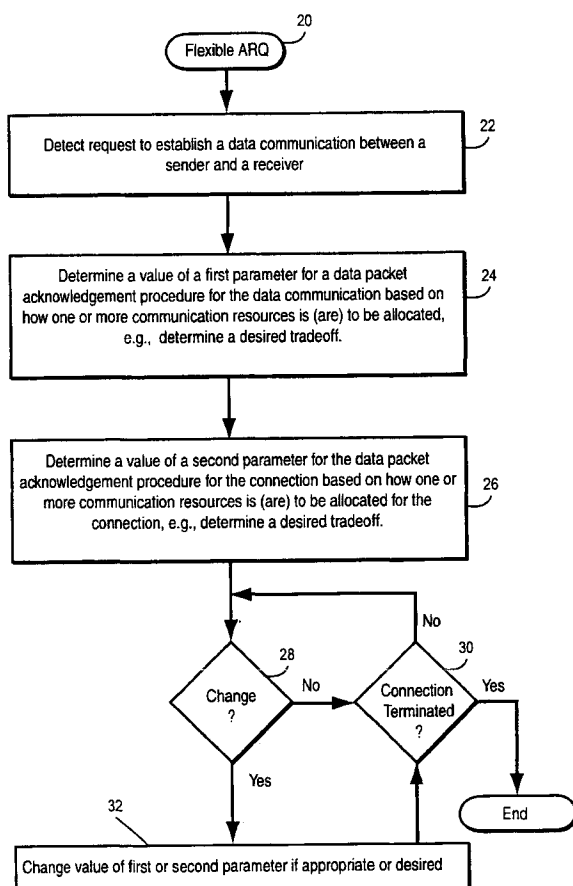
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FLEXIBLE ARQ FOR PACKET DATA TRANSMISSION



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a flexible ARQ scheme. A communications channels is set up between a transmitter and a receiver. A value is selected for an ARQ parameter for data packets to be transmitted over the communications channel. The ARQ parameter value may be selected in accordance with a trade-off between a desired performance or goal, e.g., a specific throughput of data packets transmitted over the communications channel, and one or more communication resources required to support the desired performance or goal. An example of an ARQ parameter is a number of outstanding data packets to be acknowledged by the receiver before more packets can be sent to the receiver. Another parameter example is a delay associated with the ARQ scheme. In a preferred, non-limiting example embodiment, first and second ARQ parameter values are selected for a desired trade-off. Accordingly, a specific number of outstanding data packets to be acknowledged by the receiver and an acknowledgement or retransmission delay can be selected to achieve a desired performance, e.g., a desired throughput of data packets, at a particular resource cost. Because of the flexibility provided by the present invention, a communications device may set its own objectives for a particular connection based upon one or more performance requirements, communication resources, or other requirements.

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

PAJ, INSPEC, EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 96 36150 A (NOKIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS) 14 November 1996 (1996-11-14)	1-9, 24-26, 28-40, 44-48
Y	page 5, line 8 - line 26; claims 1-5	10-23, 27, 41-43, 49,50
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	US 5 063 562 A (CHEN MON-SONG ET AL) 5 November 1991 (1991-11-05) column 4, line 19 - line 39 column 5, line 52 -column 6, line 30 abstract ---	1-9, 24-26, 28-40, 44-48
A	US 5 974 028 A (RAMAKRISHNAN KADANGODE K) 26 October 1999 (1999-10-26) column 1, line 64 -column 2, line 29 ---	1-9, 24-26, 28-40, 44-48
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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